Private investment from India in Pakistan

247. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Pakistan has recently allowed private investment from India in various fields;

(b) if so, the details thereof, indicating the private investors allowed to invest and the activities in which these investments are proposed to be allowed; and

(c) whether the Government of India has given green signal to such investments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Review of anti-dumping duty on shrimp import by US

248. SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether US International Trade Commission announced its decision to hold "changed circumstances reviews" on its January decision to impose anti-dumping duty on shrimp import from India and Thailand;

(b) whether a fresh assessment of laws was being made;

(c) whether USITC has decided to send experts to India to assess the damage caused to shrimp export business;

(d) if so, what are the reports made by them; and

(e) to what extent US's decision to revive anti-dumping duty on shrimp has been decided upon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per the reports received by us, the US International Trade Commission (ITC) is not conducting any assessment of law. They are conducting the Changed Circumstances Review.

(c) A team of experts from US ITC is expected to visit India during August, 2005. Government is yet to receive official confirmation from the US ITC in this regard.

(d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

(e) US ITC is yet to announce its decision on revision of anti-dumping duties.

Guidelines set by Trade and Economic Relations Committee

249. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Trade and Economic Relations Committee headed by Prime Minister met in the month of June and decided to set guidelines for future trade negotiations and enhancing flow in the country;

(b) if so, whether in the meeting the Commerce Minister presented a current status and future roadmap for a host of possible FTAs and RTAs to the Trade and Economic Relations Committee; and

(c) if so, what other decision were taken by the Committee and what steps are being taken to implement them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) and (b) Trade and Economic Relations Committee (TERC) headed by the Prime Minister met in the month of June, 2005 where a presentation on "India's engagement in Regional Trading Arrangements" was made.

(c) Action has been initiated on the following major decisions taken by the TERC were:—

(i) Reports of existing Joint Study Groups would be brought for consideration in the TERC before further action is taken.

(ii) Possibility of consolidation of ICRIER, RIS and IIFT to set up an autonomous institute of trade and foreign economic policy would be examined.

(iii) Issues of Capacity Building in the Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Commerce and Industry would be taken up.